COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

COUNCIL CHAMBER January 21st 1884

The inaugural meeting of the Board of Aldermen for 1884 was held at 11a.m. yesterday in the City Hall. The oath of office was administered by Mr. A. S. Abbott, city clerk. Present: Mayor Hyman, Ald. Birrell, Hunt, Skinner, Hewitt, Scarrow, Dr Niven, Labatt, O'Meara, Beattie, Cowan, and Becher. Absent, Ald. Stringer.

MAYOR HYMAN'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

Mr. Edmund Meredith, mayor for 1883, introduced C S Hyman, mayor elect for 1884, who briefly addressed the members assembled. He said the Council would be required shortly to appoint three representatives for the Free Public Library Board, and suggested that one should be from the legal profession, one from the mechanics and one from the merchants of the city. He suggested that steps should this year be taken by No. 1 Committee and the Council to reduce the share - 55 per cent.—now borne by the city of the jail and court house expenses in connection with the administration of justice. Another subject worthy of consideration was the establishment of a superannuation fund, as provided for by law, for the benefit of firemen and police. If deemed advisable such a fund could be augmented by a grant from the Council. The time had come for some definite and resolute action towards the better protection of the railway crossings in the city by overhead bridges, gates or some other effective means. He trusted that the drainage system, so beneficial from a sanitary standpoint to the city, would still be maintained and carried on to a still further state of perfection. He advised that steps be taken for the better protection of the northern and eastern parts of the city from fire by the erection of additional fire stations In conclusion he asked the Council to devote themselves faithfully and economically to all the business, financial and otherwise, that would come before them during the year.

The minutes of the last session were read and signed.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Andrew Dale and John Overell—Application for the position of auditors in 1884.

Thomas Browne—In reference to repairs to Fire Hall engine. No. 3

Mrs. O'Dell—Asking construction of a sewer on Queen's avenue. No. 2.

City Solicitor—A letter stating that the free public library bylaw had received a legal majority of the votes of the ratepayers.

Catherine McDiarmid—Re taxes. No. 1.

J. Williams and R. S. Holmes—In reference to taxes. No. 1.

County treasurer—Acounts Court house and jail expenses, $1,822 41; juries, $390 22. No. 1.

THE AUDITORS.

The Mayor appointed as his auditor for 1884 Mr. Geo F. Jewell.

For the Council, Andrew Dale was nominated by Ald. Hunt, seconded by Ald. Scarrow; and John Overell by Ald. Beattie and Cowan. Mr. Dale was elected on the following division: For Dale—Ald. Birrell Hunt, Skinner, Hewitt, Scarrow and Dr. Niven. For Overell—Ald. Labatt, O'Meara, Beattie, Cowan and Becher.

It was decided to accept the report of Messrs. Jewell and Millar on the audit of 1883.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Ald Birrell and Labatt—Motion that Ald. O'Meara, Becher, Skinner and the mover be a committee to strike standing committees. Carried.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

By Ald. Cowan—On the first meeting of the council after Feb. 1, that the council proceed to elect three trustees on the Board of Management of the Free Public Library, in accordance with the Free Libraries Act of 1882

By Ald. Niven—That an additional health officer be appointed for the city.

Council adjourned for 30 minutes to allow the Striking Committee to prepare their report. At the expiration of the time Ald. Skinner presented the report, as follows :

No. 1 Committee—Ald. Birrell, Beattie, Skinner and Becher.

No. 2—Ald. Labatt, O'Meara, Stringer and Scarrow.

No 3 —Ald. Hunt, Cowan, Hewitt and Dr Niven.

Court of Revision—Ald. Birrell, Beattie, Cowan, Skinner and Becher

Board of Health—Ald. Niven, Scarrow, Stringer, Cowan and Hewitt.

Taken up by committees. No. 1 passed and No 2 read.

Ald. Birrell moved and Ald. Cowan seconded, that Ald. Hewitt's name be substituted for that of Ald. Stringer on No. 2 Committee.

Ald Scarrow moved in amendment, seconded by Ald. Skinner, that the arranging of No. 2 Committee be deferred till next meeting. Lost, and motion carried.

No. 3 was passed, Ald. Skinner's name being substituted for Ald. Hewitt.

Court of Revision passed.

On motion of Ald. Becher and Niven the names of Dr. Wilkinson, house surgeon, and T. H. Tracy, city engineer, were added to the Board of Health.

THE CHAIRMEN.

Council adjourned for ten minutes for the appointment of chairmen of committees. On returning the committees reported as follows: Number One—Unable to decide. Number Two—Ald. Hewitt (unanimous). Number Three—Ald. Hunt (re-elected).

Ald. Hunt and Cowan moved that Ald. Birrell be chairman of No 1.

Ald. Skinner and Scarrow—An amendment that Ald. Becher be chairman. Lost and motion carried.

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The bylaw for the establishment of a free public library was read and Passed.

A DEPUTATION,

Consisting of Ald. Cowan and Skinner was appointed to attend the convention on assessment amendments, to be held in Toronto on the 29th.

Adjourned till next Monday.

The Committees.

The personnel of the three standing committees are as follows :

No. 1—Ald. Birrell, chairman ; Beattie, Becher and Skinner.

No 2—Ald. Hewitt, chairman ; O'Meara, Labatt and Scarrow.

No. 3—Ald. Hunt, chairman ; Stringer, Cowan and Niven.